Requirement for skilled labourers in textile sector

2567. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment for the requirement of skilled labourers in the textile sector has been made;

(b) if so, the steps taken to train manpower; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government had set up a Committee to study the existing infrastructure available for education and training in textiles in the country. The Committee had recommended that all the training institutes in the Government and private sector, which are carrying out industrial training, be re-structured and re-oriented by augmenting them and modernising their current infrastructure. Further additional facilities should also be created in association with various stake holders on the Public Private Partnership, (PPP) model.

(c) Does not arise.

Closure of textile units

2568. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last two years the country had witnessed closure of many textile units, in spite of various steps taken by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also fact that one of the reasons for the closure of units was stiff competition from neighbouring countries; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The details of cotton/man-

made fibre mills (Non-SSI) closed in the country during the last 2 years is as follows:

Year	Number of mills closed
2004-05	11
2005-06	10

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of wool

†2569. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of wool in the country during last two years and its annual consumption;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme to increase the production and export of the wool; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The details of annual production of wool in the country during the two years are as under:

(In million kgs approximately)*

Year	Production	Consumption
2004-05	44.6	108
2005-06	44.9	109

*Since, wool has been deleted as one of the items from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Food and Public Distribution, no data on the consumption of wool is being compiled by the Ministry and the consumption figures are 'derived' figures.

(b) and (c) The Government has been implementing various projects

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.